

REMARKS

Claims 3-13, 15-23 and 26-31 are presented for consideration, with Claims 3, 4, 13, 17, 20 and 23 being independent.

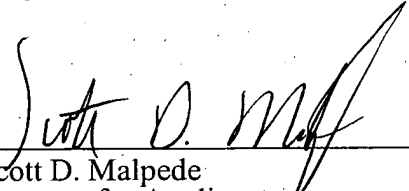
Applicant notes with appreciation that Claims 3-13, 15-23 and 26-31 stand allowed. In order to expedite allowance, Claims 24, 25 and 32 have been cancelled.

Claims 24, 25 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Webb '135 and Yang '412. Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, Claims 24, 25 and 32 have been cancelled. This rejection is therefore deemed to be moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott D. Malpede
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
SDM/vmm